Botto sets new state swimming record at Senior Games

Special to the Pilot

The North Carolina Senior Games State Finals were held in Raleigh the week of September 21. Laura Botto, a swimmer from Lockwood Folly, heard about the Senior Games from some of her friends and decided to give it a try.

All Botto ended up doing was entering five swimming events and winning gold medals in all five events, including a new state record in the 100-yard freestyle with a time that fractured a record on the books since 1994.

"I had an objective for this year's State Finals and



Botto now owns a North Carolina Senior Games state record in swim-

Photo courtesy of Brunswick **County Parks and Recreation**

that was to better the times I achieved in the local Gator Games and I am proud to say Î did just that," Botto stated. The local games were held in Wilmington at the UNCW pool and included competitors from Brunswick and New Hanover counties.

The local games were held in March of this year and Botto was able

to use BCC's new Aquatic center pool to prepare. "I only had three practice sessions before the competition at UNCW," Botto said. "To prepare for the State Finals, I forced myself to practice three times per week in the Lockwood Folly 25-yard pool and my workouts consisted of 2100-yard practice

"I had a marvelous time in Raleigh where I attended the cheering competition, opening ceremonies and the follies, Botto stated. "I met a group of very nice people, the volunteers did a great job and all the events were well organized.'

Botto moved to this area seven years ago with her husband Rich. They first resided in North Myrtle Beach before purchasing a home in Bruns-

"We had vacationed in the area for many years and knew we would relocate here when we decided to move from Oxford, New Jersey," Botto explained. "We love the climate, water and great golf courses."

Botto did some swimming in a summer recreational league when she was younger and continued her career while attending Montclair State University. She was a swimmer on the Red Hawk team and also played field hockey. She went to college on an academic scholarship, typical of the years before Title IX imposed equality on college

Botto is very active in Lockwood Folly social activities and is co-chair of the Susan G. Komen "Rally for a Cure" for breast cancer program. Lockwood's program includes a Card Party on October 9th, a golf tournament slated for October 29th and a Women's Club silent auction on November 2nd.

Lockwood Folly has been sponsoring the golf tournament for 12 years and hopes to break the \$300,000 contribution mark this year. Botto is an avid golfer and plays in several county groups. She is also a member of the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce and works part-time as a Welcome Service Lady, which welcomes new residents to Brunswick, New Hanover and Pender counties.

All the activity is nothing new for Botto. She was Parks and Recreation Director in Scotch Plains,

"I enjoyed the job very much and in addition to the administrative duties I had the opportunity to work with all kinds of groups and consultants on



Brunswick County Senior Games medalists

Pictured from left are Dennis Maneri, Martha Reese, Charles Jackson and Ken Weyman, Brunswick County residents who medaled in the North Carolina Senior Games. Maneri earned a pair of gold medals in swimming, Reese won a tennis doubles gold and Jackson took home a silver in table tennis. Weyman won two gold medals and three silver medals in swimming.

Photo courtesy of Brunswick County Parks and Recreation

technical projects," Botto commented. If she qualifies, Botto is considering a trip to

Houston for the 2011 National Senior Games. 'We'll see how it works out, my husband said

we know some people in Houston we could visit," Botto said. "My goal for the 2010 NC State Finals

will be to better my times again."

In addition to her swimming events, Botto is planning on entering the 2010 Gator Games golf and bowling competitions. Don't bet against her in

2009 Brunswick County Senior Games State Finals medalists

Bowling

Female 55-59 Second place- Linda Turner, Margaret **Beavers**

Cheerleading

Fourth place- Brunswick County Gatorettes (Bette Fuller, Joyce Lowrimore, Anne Klosowski, Marlene Robinson, Betty Singletary and Patricia Singletary)

Cycling

Female 70-74 one-mile First place- Faith Ahuja Female 70-74 5K First place- Faith Ahuja

Horseshoes

Female 70-74 Third place- Cora Mae Frink

Silver Arts

Knittina Third place- Chris Keilman Needlework First place- Chris Keilman

Literary Arts

Life Experiences First place- Joseph Koletar

Softball Throw

65-69

Second place- Mike Dolan

Swimming

50-Yard Backstroke Female 55-59 First place- Laura Botto

50-Yard Butterfly Male 70-74 Second place- Ken Weyman

50-Yard Freestyle Female 55-59 First place- Laura Botto Male 70-74

Second place- Ken Weyman

100-Yard Breaststroke Male 55-59 First place- Dennis Maneri Male 70-74

First place- Ken Weyman

100-Yard Backstroke Female 55-59

First place- Laura Botto

100-Yard Freestyle Female 55-59 First place- Laura Botto

100-Yard Inidividual Medley Female 55-59

First place- Laura Botto 200-Yard Breaststroke

Male 55-59 First place- Dennis Maneri

200-Yard Freestyle Male 70-74 Second place- Ken Weyman 500-Yard Freestyle Male 70-74 First place- Ken Weyman

Table Tennis

Table Tennis Singles Male 75-79 Second place- Charles Jackson

Tennis

Tennis Singles Male 60-64

Second place- David Portney

Male 75-79

Mixed Doubles

Second place- Tony Regnier

Tennis Doubles Female 65-69 First place- Waldtraud Yedziniak and Michaela Richardson Female 70-74

First place- Barbara McMichael and Martha Reese

60-64 Second place- David Portney and Barbara McMichael 60-64

Third place- Cynthia Hamrick and Ron Madden 65-69

First place (tie)- Karen Holbrook and Richard Trask; Waldtraud Yedziniak and Chuck Mammay

Track and Field 5K Run Male 65-69 Third place- Gerald Zinner

Recreation

Oak Island Parks and Recreation

Adult co-ed kickball league

Oak Island Parks and Recreation is sponsoring an adult kickball league this fall. Kickball is not just for kids anymore, and OKI Parks and Recreation guarantees your team will be a fun and social envi-

Teams consist of 10 players on the field and play with a 10-inch kickball. Games will take place in the evenings at Middleton Park. Get your team together today, special first season league fee of \$75. For more information call 910-278-5518.

Halloween Kids Fishing Derby

Ocean Crest Pier, Oak Island Parks and Recreation and Ocean Crest Pier are sponsoring a free haunted fishing derby on October 31 from 4 to 6 p.m. The derby is free and open to all youth ages 12 and under.

All kids who wear a costume will get a goodie bag. There will be many prizes for different categories such as: most fish caught, largest fish, scariest fish, ugliest fish, haunted fish, etc. Participants will need to bring their own rod and bait. For more information call 910-278-

Brunswick Pedalers

Ride schedule posted on the internet

The Brunswick County Pedalers' October ride schedule has been posted at: http://www.pedalers.southport.org/schedule.html. This group of cycling enthusiasts puts together all sorts of trips in Brunswick County so check them out if you feel the need to be more active or are interested in cycling.

South Brunswick High School

Athletic boosters membership drive

The Athletic Boosters are in the midst of their 2009-10 membership drive right now. Memberships can be purchased for \$15 for an individual and \$25 for a family. Booster members receive a \$2 discount at all home games (except postseason play); priority parking inside the gate; preferred seating at basketball games; and inclusion in all tailgating opportunities. The \$2 home game discount is good

for all sports all year long. Corporate sponsors are also needed to fill up the sign board on Cougar Drive. A minimum donation of \$400 is required and includes two season passes for free entry to all home games for the school year (except postseason play).

Booster Club president Robert Stone has a plethora of plans for this

year to support the Wachovia Cup winning Cougars.
"With so many budget cuts in the school budget this year, the role

of the Boosters will be more important than ever," said Stone. Anyone interested in joining the South Brunswick High School Athletic Boosters or becoming a corporate sponsor for the 2009-10

school year can download applications at www.bcswan.net, click on the South Brunswick High school page, and then click on Sports Zone or by contact Lori Bates at 910-278-6210. The boosters also meet most Mondays at 6 p.m. at the school.

The Adventure Company

Kayak fishing tour offered October 16

Besides bike and kayaking tours, The Adventure Company provides many types of guided trips including kayak fishing tours. A kayak fishing tour will be led on Friday, October 16, from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The fee is \$75 and includes kayak, paddle, life jacket and bait. If participants have their own kayak and gear the fee drops to

Participants must pre register by calling The Adventure Company at 910-454-0607 and also must provide a current North Carolina Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses and fishing rod and reel. Space will be limited so apply soon.

Bald Head Island

25th Maritime Classic November 7

Celebrating their Silver Anniversary, Bald Head Island will host the 25th annual Maritime Classic Road Race November 7. Runners can choose from the 5k run, the one-mile Fun Run and the USA Track and Field Certified 10k. The Fun Run begins at noon and the other two races 30 minutes thereafter.

Early registration should be postmarked no later than October 26. All other registration concludes October 30. For further information or to get registration forms, call Bald Head Island at 800-234-1666, 910-457-3701.

South Brunswick High School

Cougar Night before big North game

Cougar Night, hosted by the South Brunswick High School Athletic Boosters, will be Friday, October 23, from 4 to 6:45 p.m. at the school The annual pep rally is in its tenth year and begins an evening of family entertainment leading up to the match up between the Cougars and the North Brunswick Scorpions.

The \$3 admission supports the athletes of SBHS. While this is a fundraiser for the SBHS Athletic Boosters. PTAs from Southport Elementary, Bolivia, Town Creek and SBMS will be on hand with booths to raise money as well. They will also be joined by other clubs and organizations from SBHS and SBMS: International Studies, the Spanish Club, Art Honor Society, Key Club, Builder's Club, cheerleaders, soccer and more.

Booths include: face painting; hair painting; dunking booth; cake walk; Human Hula Hoop; tatoo parlor; marriage licenses; funnel cakes; hot dogs; nachos; Italian Ice; spanish twister and much more. Live entertainment will be provided from 5 to 6:45 p.m. and includes performances from the Little Cougar and Bull Dog cheer-

For more information email lorikuleybates@yahoo.com.

2009 Brunswick County High school football schedules

South Brunswick Date Opponent

October

Open 16

North Brunswick at East Bladen

November

Whiteville

North Brunswick

October South Columbus at South Brunswick

30 Open **November**

East Bladen

All games start at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted

South Brunswick October Sports schedules

Volleyball

East Bladen 15

at Whiteville

Cross Country Conference meet (TBA)

Boys' soccer

at New Hanover

at North Brunswick 21 East Bladen

at Whiteville

Girls' tennis 15 East Bladen